in cabin ambience etc. have been taken to improve its overall functioning. Such measures are an on-going process to remain competitive and to cater to the needs of the growing air traffic.

Closure of transit rooms

1512. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Airports Authority of India used to maintain transit rooms for ordinary passengers at Delhi and Mumbai airports since a long time;

(b) whether this facility has now been withdrawn to the ordinary public;

(c) how many transit rooms were there at both the airports respectively;

(d) why did the AAI remove these transit rooms now; and

(e) what alternative use has been given to these rooms which used to help middle class passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facility at Mumbai Airport has been temporarily withdrawn due to development/construction activities at site.

(c) At Delhi Airport there are 9 rooms and at Mumbai Airport there were 14 rooms.

(d) and (e) This facility has been withdrawn on temporary basis as a part of modernization and the present security threat prevailing in the country.

Air India's share in cargo business

1513. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India have been trying to increase its share in cargo business by converting its passenger aircraft into freighters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;